## FILED

August 16. 2004

## NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

In the Matter of:

GEORGE M. MIRDA, M.D. LICENSE NO. MA045026

ORDER GRANTING
ADJOURNMENT AND
CONTINUING ORDER
OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

This matter was scheduled to be heard before the Board on August 11, 2000, €or consideration of the Attorney General's motion for partial summary decision on Counts I - IV of the pending administrative complaint, and, in the event said motion were to be granted, for a hearing to determine the penalty to be imposed against respondent George M. Mirda, M.D. based thereon.

On August 11, 2004, Deputy Attorney General Megan Matthews appeared for complainant Attorney General and respondent George M. Mirda appeased pro se. Prior to the commencement of the scheduled hearing, respondent Mirda, who has thus far at all times appeared pro se in this matter, requested that the Board adjourn the proceeding so that he might retain counsel to represent him before the Board. The Board then entertained oral argument on respondent's request. Deputy Attorney General Matthews strongly urged the Board to deny respondent's request, noting that respondent had twice before been advised that he could retain counsel when he appeared before committees of the Board, and on both occasions elected to proceed without legal representation.



Respondent suggested that he had previously not fully appreciated the seriousness and potential ramifications of this action, and thus asked to be afforded an opportunity to retain counselin light of the gravity of this matter,

The Board has determined to grant respondent's request for an adjournment, for the limited and express purpose of affording him an opportunity to retain counsel. Although the Board recognizes respondent's request to be tardy, given that more than seven months have passed since Dr. Mirda first appeared before a Committee of the Board on January 7, 2004, we also recognize that the public interest is in no way compromised by the granting of an adjournment because respondent's license is presently temporarily suspended (and respondent therefore may not presently engage in any medical practice in New Jersey).

IT **IS,** therefore, on this  $11^{\text{th}}$  day of August, 2004 ORDERED:

- 1. A hearing on the Attorney General's pending motion for partial summary decision in this matter shall be rescheduled to be held before the Board on October 13, 2004. Respondent's motion for an adjournment of the proceeding is granted for the sole and express purpose of affording respondent an opportunity to retain legal counsel to represent him in this matter.
- 2. The Order of Temporary Suspension filed on January 23, 2004 remains in full force and effect. In light of the granting of respondent's request for an adjournment, respondent may

not move to vacate the temporary suspension of his license (see paragraph 2 of the Order of Temporary Suspension filed January 23, 2004) prior to the conclusion of any hearing(s) on the pending application for partial summary decision.

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- 3. Respondent is hereby granted leave to retain legal counsel, and shall do so not later than September 10, 2004 (thirty days from the date on which this matter was originally scheduled to Upon retention, counsel shall immediately make an be heard). appearance with the Board by advising the Board and Deputy Attorney General Matthews bath orally and in Writing of his or her legal representation of Dr. Mirda.
- 4. In the event retained counsel chooses to submit any papers or documents in opposition to the pending motion for summary decision, any such submissions must be served upon the Board and the Attorney General not later than September 23, 2004. Attorney General may thereafter respond to any such submissions not later than October 5, 2004.
- 5. No further adjournments shall he granted of the return date for the pending motion for partial summary decision.

Board President

NEW JERSEY STATE